



## GET READY!

**"I love you unconditionally."** Love is a powerful feeling and we can love each other no matter what. Sometimes it may feel easy to love another, and sometimes it may feel real hard. Ask your child to think about some difficult situations they have faced, such as missing a friend or not getting something they wanted. We should love ourselves and each other whether we are happy or sad, and be patient and forgiving even when someone makes a mistake. This is called unconditional love because we love each other under all conditions.

### Talk:

**Who is the verse speaking to?** Jesus was speaking to his disciples just hours before he was about to be hung on the cross.

**What is the verse saying?** Back then, people walked around barefoot or with open sandals on. Animals pooped everywhere, roads were not paved so they were filled with dirt and feet were very disgusting by dinner time. The washing of the stinky, dirty feet of his disciples was a great act of service from Jesus and it showed that Jesus loved them very, very much.

**Live:** **How can we live out what the verse is saying.?** This story ends by Jesus reminding us that we can love others just as he loved his disciples and us. One of the men whose feet Jesus washed was the very same man who betrayed him. Jesus knew that Judas was going to betray him and he STILL loved him. Isn't that incredible? Take a few minutes to make a list of creative ways that your family can show love to others like being the first to say I am sorry, to forgive others, an act of service like helping with a chore or simply telling someone what you love about them.

### Pray:

Lord, thank you for loving the disciples even when they did things that hurt you and thank you for loving each of us the same way. We make mistakes, we hurt others and we have been hurt by others. But because you have shown us just how powerful unconditional love is, we can love others even when they may be hard to love at the moment. Thank you for helping others love me too even when I may have hurt them. Amen

*When we are thankful for what God has done for us,  
we are giving to others to show our appreciation.*

**1 John 4:19 We love each other because he loved us first.**

**READ:**  
**John 13:1-17**

**Parent Tip:** Before you start reading, have the kids grab some blank paper and crayons, markers or colored pencils. While they listen to you read the story, have them draw a picture of what they are hearing. Encourage them to draw a picture that details what stood out to them most and then share their drawing with the family.